

Jonas M. Poweshiek of the State Historical Department

ISSN 0003-4827

No known copyright restrictions.

---

Recommended Citation

"Jonas M. Poweshiek of the State Historical Department." *The Annals of Iowa* 26 (1945), 306-306.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0003-4827.6978>

Hosted by [Iowa Research Online](#)

estness and eagerness to serve well and faithfully the people of his community, he took the office that year.

That he carried out his pledge is demonstrated by a report filed by him with the township clerk, Attorney ("Major") Ira J. Alder, more than a year later, on Friday, November 12, 1869. In the dusty depths of the court house vaults, a generation later, a sworn statement was exhumed, bearing the governor's signature, and the attestation of Mr. Alder.

To the report was attached this affidavit: "S. J. Kirkwood, being duly sworn, says that the foregoing statement, of his accounts as supervisor of Road District No. 9 of Iowa City township, in said county, is just and true, as he verily believes." The document proves indubitably that, while America has become known, the world over, as the one land, where road supervisors may become governors and United States senators—and even presidents of the nation, it is also a country, where men in very high offices may serve in the lowliest, without losing dignity or fame. And the service in question began as a "joke"—one that "back-fired!"—*Iowa City Press-Citizen*.

---

Jonas M. Poweshiek has been with the State Historical department twenty years. On his birthday, January 1, 1944, marking fifty years of his life and twenty years of service for the state, the staff of the department presented him with a pair of driving gloves and his wife and daughter with a box of candy. Jonas lives at Altoona, near the state capital, where he cultivates his ranch. On invitation he prepared the article about the Musquakie Indians engaged in World War II. His distinguished ancestor, Chief Poweshiek, whose camp was at one time near the Racoon forks, might look down from the "happy hunting grounds" upon a scene quite different from that of a century ago along the Iowa and Des Moines valleys.

Copyright of *Annals of Iowa* is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.